

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

DPW-01 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /104 W
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P R 080347 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1315

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8015

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON 7 MAY 73 REPEATED FOR YOU

QUOTE:

BIEN HOA 0112

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 8 MAY 1973

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

1. THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE PATTERN OF NVA/ VC ACTIVITY IN MR 3 DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN 0800 HOURS 4 MAY AND 0800 HOURS 7 MAY. MINOR INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN ALL PROVINCES IN MR 3 EXCEPT IN BINH TUY. DURING THE PERIOD THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 35 INCIDENTS REPORTED CONSISTING OF 14 ABF, 11 GROUND CONTACTS AND 10 MINE INCIDENTS. TOTAL CASUALTIES WERE 5 FRIENDLY KILLED, 24 WOUNDED AND 11 NVA/ VC KILLED. FIFTEEN OF THE FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE FROM MINE INCIDENTS. THE SITUATION AT TON LE CHAM RANGER BASE CAMP REMAINED UNCHANGED DURING THE PERIOD AS THE CAMP RECEIVED 240 ROUNDS OF ASSORTED MORTAR AND ROCKET FIRE WOUNDING 2 RANGERS. THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUED USING LOUDSPEAKERS ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE THE RANGERS TO SURRENDER THE CAMP. ON 6 MAY, A TRAIN DETONATED A MINE 8 KMS WEST OF XUAN LOC CITY, LONG KHANH PROVINCE, WOUNDING 2 PASSENGERS. TWO BOXCARS WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED AND 20 METERS OF RAILROAD TRACK DESTROYED. THE TWO MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS DURING THE PERIOD WERE IN TAY NINH PROVINCE. ON 5 MAY AN UNKNOWN SIZE NVA/ VC FORCE ATTACKED ELEMENTS OF THE 49 TH ARVN REGIMENT 17

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KMS NORTHWEST OF HIEU THIEN DISTRICT TOWN, RESULTING IN 4 COMMUNISTS KILLED AND NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES. ON 6 MAY AN UNKNOWN SIZE NVA/ VC FORCE ATTACKED ELEMENTS OF THE 49 TH ARVN REGIMENT 11 KMS SOUTHEAST OF PHU KHUONG DISTRICT TOWN. SIX COMMUNISTS WERE KILLED AND NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES REPORTED. THE COMMUNISTS LEFT BEHIND 2 AK-47'S, 13 B-40 ROUNDS AND 7 BOXES OF AK-47 AMMO.

2. OUR PROVINCIAL REP IN TAY NINH QUOTES A SOURCE IN THE TAY NINH RD CADRE AS REPORTING THAT SOME NVA UNITS ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO NLF UNITS. HE DECLARED THAT THE VIET CONG HAVE HIRED SEAMSTRESSES IN NINH THANH, PHUOC HOI, TRUONG HOA, HIEP NINH AND LONG THANH VILLAGES TO MAKE BLACK PAJAMAS FOR NVA TROOPS SO THAT THEY MAY PASS AS VC. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, VC CADRE HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO DISRUPT THE VILLAGE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. THE VC DO NOT CONSIDER THE ELECTIONS TO BE LEGAL SINCE COMMUNISTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

3. GVN III CORPS HEADQUARTERS HAS INAUGURATED MANDATORY POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION FOR JUNIOR OFFICERS TWO HOURS EACH SATURDAY.

4. GIA DINH PROVINCE REP REPORTS GVN VIS TEAMS ARE FANNING OUT OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE TO EXPLAIN TO VILLAGE/ HAMLET OFFICIALS AND THE PEOPLE THE NIXON- THIEU COMMUNIQUE AND, PERHAPS MORE SIGNIFICANTLY AS AN INDICATION OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF GVN PEACE- SEEKING EFFORTS, THE GVN 10- POINT PROPOSAL RECENTLY TABLED AT THE GVN/ PRG TALKS IN PARIS.

4. CONSUL GENERAL HAS RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM ARVN III CORPS CHIEF OF STAFF COL. NGO VAN MINH OF EARLIER REPORTS FROM POLOFF TAN AN REGARDING CROSS- BORDER PATROL OPERATIONS BY THE 83 RD BORDER RANGER BATTALION BASED IN WESTERN DUC HUE DISTRICT, HAU NGHIA PROVINCE. THESE OPERATIONS ARE NOT NEW, HOWEVER. THE 83 RD HAS BEEN SENDING OUT PATROLS ON ALMOST A DAILY BASIS SINCE WELL BEFORE THE CEASE- FIRE; SOME OF THESE PATROLS HAVE CROSSED INTO CAMBODIA IN THE PAST. WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE BUNKER

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